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PATENTS  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Yasuaki Tsuchiya, et al.

**Examiner:** Maria Guerrero

**Serial No.:** 09/737, 397

**Art Unit:** 2822

**Filed:** December 15, 2000

**Docket:** 14162

**For:** PROCESS FOR FORMING A METAL  
INTERCONNECT

**Dated:** August 22, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Arlington, VA 22313

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.121**

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated May 22, 2003, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121, Applicants respectfully submit the following response for entry in the above-identified case.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Arlington, VA 22313 on August 22, 2003.

Dated: August 22, 2003

  
Richard J. Danyko

**Introductory Comments:**

In this paper the applicants are canceling claims 1, 5, 9-12, 28-32, 34, 37, 38, and 40.

The remaining claims numbered 3-7, 13-27, 33, 35, 36, and 39 have previously been indicated to be in condition of allowance.